

SENIOR CENTER COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES OF 1/9/18

Present: Theresa Eckstrom-Chair; Tom Cullinane, Chris Evans, Paul Johnson, Patty Hainsworth, Amy Waters (note: several other Commission members sat in on all or part of the meeting but attendance was not taken.)

Theresa called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. The minutes of the 11/14/17 meeting were approved (m/s/a). The next meeting was confirmed for 2/13/18 at 4 p.m.

The positive news delivered by the City Manager at the Special Commission on Elder Affairs meeting just prior to this meeting was discussed. It was noted that the City Manager agreed to provide opportunities for input from the Commission during the development process for the vacant space. It was further noted that the following items have long been held as important considerations:

- Whatever is developed adjacent to the Senior Center must be deemed a compatible use (e.g. elder housing, assisted living)
- The Senior Center should have separate entrances and parking, with at least 100 spaces.
- The Grounds should remain available for Senior Center use, though it may not be essential to have access to the enclosed courtyard.
- At minimum, the plan should include the development of 2500 square feet off the main lobby for a new activity room for the Senior Center. It is possible that this and other space be shared with the residents/participants of the new development.
- At minimum, 5,000 square feet is needed for storage space for the Senior Center, its tenants and Building Services.
- Additional space would also be well utilized by the Senior Center, such as a multi-purpose room (2,000 square feet), a classroom (500 square feet), 3 additional offices (140 square feet/ea.) with at least one of the offices being located on the ground floor. It was noted that if the plan includes a Fitness Center on the 4th floor, moving exercise classes upstairs would result in additional availability of space which may not require build-out on the ground floor.

Amy also reported that the State COA contract is in the signing process; program allocations are status quo and there will be presentations made at upcoming Commission meetings; there are no changes in leases; a 6 month analysis indicates that there may be a small surplus for transportation as the WHA program and insurance providers have taken away part of the burden; and the new Chinese Elder Group Coordinator position is very close to being filled.

Patty reported that fire alarm issues have been resolved and snow removal/weather remains challenging. She also reported on programs including a new distinguished speakers series developed by Suki. In addition, Amy and Patty discussed with members the need and plan to make more room for Bobby M's Diner patrons to sit and eat there. Amy also noted that in 2017, there were 406 new registrations of Center participants.

The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m. (m/s/a)